

MAILS
From San Francisco:
Siberia Maru, Jan. 23.
For San Francisco:
Wilhelmina, Jan. 24.
From Vancouver:
Makura, Jan. 24.
From Honolulu:
Niagara, Feb. 2.

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Confessing Murder of Lads, Youth Clears Makiki Mystery Crime

16-YEAR-OLD KEAWEKAME SAYS LITTLE BOYS KILLED IN QUARREL OVER PLAY

After Brooding Alone for Week, He Tells McDuffie He is Ready to Talk, Officials Say—Mother is Grilled But Refuses to Admit Her Son's Guilt

A week of brooding alone in a cell at the police station ended at noon today when Keawe Kamekame, 16-year-old Hawaiian youth, told police officials and the county attorney that he had murdered little George and Kama Kamea in their isolated Makiki valley home a week ago Monday morning.

With this confession he gave to the officials, according to their statement a few minutes afterward to the Star-Bulletin, a remarkable and in some respects astonishing story of boyish play which ended in a violent quarrel, a fight, and the terrible death of George, 13, and Kama, 9, from an axe wielded by the elder youth with fatal effect.

Keawe's confession came during a session when he was questioned closely by the officials and that he was put through anything that even remotely resembled the "third degree" or even that he was "sweated," as the police call it.

But the youth's mother was soon after subjected to a severe grilling by the officials in an effort to secure from her a confession that the boy had told her of his deed, shortly after it occurred, and she had helped him cover his guilt from the police sleuths a few hours afterward trying to trail the double murderer.

At 1:30 this afternoon Captain of Detectives McDuffie said: "We have determined the murder of the two little Makiki valley boys."

Keawe's confession was made by Chief McDuffie when the latter investigated the affair and has been held ever since on suspicion although the boy stoutly declared he knew nothing of it.

This morning when McDuffie heard the boy wanted to confess he sent for County Attorney Brown and a stenographer. Then in the presence of these two, McDuffie and Sgt. Kellert, Keawe told the tale.

It was a childish fight, according to his story, and he killed them in a frenzy. When they went up to their cottage in the morning with their pal Keawe's friend with them and stayed to play a kind of a puzzle block game with them. This brought on the fight.

He says they accused him of being a crook and he struck one of them with a stick; the younger then attacked him with an axe (only the larger of the two axes was used) and he smashed his away and killed them. Tells Details of Crime.

After the youth had related himself of the first admission the remainder came more easily and he told in detail how he killed the boys and the way he and his mother tried to remove the evidence from him.

According to the young slayer's story, the smaller axe which was found near the dead boys was not used in the killing. Keawe struck the larger boy, George, first and killed him; then he gave the smaller, Kama, the second blow when he screamed. He struck each boy three blows on the head.

"When the fight started," Keawe is credited with having said to McDuffie, "I felt they would kill me, so I decided I would have to beat them to it."

While the lads were breathing their last Keawe's mother, almost calmly, went about covering up all clues. The little puzzle block game with which they had been playing he picked up, placed in his box and put it away on a shelf. Then he hurried home.

Says He Told His Mother. Keawe's mother said she told his mother all about the affair and she advised him to flee at once, but the woman has not yet admitted that she knew her son was guilty, although conflicting evidence given by her at the request of the two boys caused the authorities to believe at that time that she did.

"I told my mother," says the young prisoner, "that if I ran off the police would surely suspect, find and arrest me but that if I stayed at home and appeared to help them, they would never think I was guilty."

Keawe's prediction was nearly correct, but he did not have quite the self control to carry out his plan. From the very first, when he gave queer answers to their questions at the scene of the murder, the officers suspected him and after they had secured the hills and found no trace of men whom Keawe said he had seen leave the place with axes, he was arrested.

Mysteries Cleared Up. Mysteries surrounding the murder have been cleared up by the boy's confession. For instance, it is definitely known now that he changed his clothes because there was blood on them and that the mother washed them before the police saw them, for the same reason; also it is nearly established that the axes were the property of Keawe's brother, who formerly lived in the Kamea place.

When the self-confessed slayer came out of McDuffie's private office shortly after noon today and the load of the deed, borne by himself in his own brain was finally removed, he trembled violently and tears came to his eyes as a tiny brother waiting for him put up a sympathetic, comforting hand.

"It worried me all the time," Keawe said in English to a Star-Bulletin reporter later. "I'm sorry I did it but I'm glad it's off my mind."

PROPOSED INCOME TAX INCREASE IS BAD FOR HAWAII

Eight Per Cent on All Earnings Over 8 Per Cent Would Be Heavy Burden

Hawaiian corporations and their stockholders would severely feel the burden of an 8 per cent additional income tax such as was mentioned in the Associated Press despatch published in the Star-Bulletin yesterday, as being proposed to meet the deficit which confronts the government.

That despatch said that the proposal was for an 8 per cent tax in addition to the present tax on corporations and firms earning more than 8 per cent per annum on their capitalization. The proposal was commented upon freely in business circles and at the office of the internal revenue collector today.

At the office of the internal revenue collector it was said that many corporations here are earning far above 8 per cent on their capitalization, some as high as 50 per cent and a few even near 100 per cent. As an example of the working of the proposed law it was cited that a company with a capital of \$100,000 earned net \$10,000 and now pays a 2 per cent tax on such \$10,000.

Such earnings are \$2000 over 8 per cent, so that the new tax would be 2 per cent on \$10,000 and an additional 8 per cent on \$2000. If the earnings had been \$20,000 it would entail a tax of 2 per cent on that sum and 8 per cent additional on \$12,000.

A study of stock exchange reports will give one a ready idea of the large sums that would be paid by most of the local companies, for few of them can be found that are not paying well over 8 per cent.

A well-known stockbroker said this morning that it would mean a recapitalization of many corporations here. "Hawaiian companies, especially plantation companies," he said, "have put earnings into improvements and this piled up and increased the amount that is invested without increasing capital proportionately. As a result of this they would be in a position to feel such increased taxation materially. Recapitalization is the only way out."

Other brokers expressed the same opinion and cited that present stock prices are largely based on dividend earnings and not on original capitalization.

The internal revenue office said it would take careful study and consideration to determine what the proposed new law would mean in increased revenues through that office, but that the sum would be a large one.

COUPON SCHEME IS TURNED DOWN

Believing that it was poor business ethics and would set a bad precedent, the board of retail trades of the Chamber of Commerce at a special meeting this morning turned down a proposition presented by Fraser, representing the Eiler Music Company.

The scheme as outlined by Fraser was for certain retail stores to issue coupons on purchases, each cent paid entitling the purchaser to one vote, and the five persons receiving the most votes would win premiums, the first of which would be a player piano put out by the Eiler Company. Fraser guaranteed that this scheme would increase the business of the store entering the contest 25 per cent and he offered to file bonds to that amount as an insurance.

The members of the committee, however, opposed the proposition on all grounds, particularly as they were against all enterprises in which coupons played a part. It was also voted that both the Chinese and Japanese associations be informed of the decision.

GERMAN OFFICIAL CABLEGRAMS

BERLIN, Germany, Jan. 16.—Official report today says that neither on the west nor the east front is there important fighting. Between Katin and the Susta valleys and near Fundom, Rumania, strong Russian attacks have been repulsed.

GERMAN ARMY HEADQUARTERS, Jan. 15.—Western arena: North of the Somme today there was lively artillery fire, which still continues. In several places advances of hostile patrols were repulsed. Our reconnoitering detachments succeeded in bringing in prisoners and machine guns.

Prince Leopold's sector, east front: The weather being cloudy, there was little activity here.

Archduke Joseph's sector, Carpathians: North of Susta Valley our recently captured positions were attacked by stronger Russian and Rumanian forces, but the enemy was everywhere repulsed.

Sale of Lanai For About \$600,000 Nearly Closed

Libby, McNeill & Libby and Hawaiian Pineapple Company Men Leave on Mikahala to Go Over Island—Estimated 5000 to 10,000 Acres Available for Production of Fruit

The biggest business deal in the territory for months—the sale of the island of Lanai—is virtually closed, according to authoritative report in business circles. The Star-Bulletin learns that it is likely to be completed next Monday or Tuesday.

None of those actively interested in either the sale or purchase of the island would talk when seen by the Star-Bulletin today but from other sources comes the information that the purchase price is approximately \$600,000 and that the buyers will be Libby, McNeill & Libby and probably the Hawaiian Pineapple Company.

The Lanai Company, Ltd., owns the island. If the deal is completed, as now seems certain it will mark a very large extension of territory on the part of the big pineapple interests, two of which will virtually form a syndicate to operate the island as a huge pineapple plantation in addition to its considerable ranch operations.

Partly Leaves For Islands. Certainty of a big deal being on foot came last evening when the steamer Mikahala took a party of prominent pineapple men to the island. The party included C. V. Jenkins and Walter Macfarlane, representing Libby, McNeill & Libby. James D. Doloy, president and manager of the Hawaiian Pineapple Company; Lewis E. Arnold, superintendent of the Hawaiian Pineapple Company, and John L. Whitmore, superintendent of plantation for the same corporation. Dr. Harold L. Lyon, pathologist of the Sugar Planters' Experiment station, is also in the party.

It is understood he is taken as an expert agriculturist in connection with estimates of the pineapple lands and productivity. Mr. Jenkins has been in Honolulu a number of months. He is the representative here of Libby, McNeill & Libby, the big Chicago firm which, through the local corporation, Libby, McNeill & Libby of Honolulu, Ltd., has steadily been developing and expanding until now it is one of the leading factors in the Hawaiian pineapple field.

Reports Gain Definiteness. Reports of the sale of Lanai to pineapple interests have been afloat for months, reaching a rather definite stage when Jenkins and O. G. Malrow, associated with the same interests, came to Hawaii, and when, later, Malrow, Robert W. Shingle and John T. McCrosson visited the island.

(Continued on page two)

4000-TON TIGER OF THE SEAS LOOSE AMONG ALLIED SHIPPING; SAID TO HAVE ELUDED PATROL

Greece Bows to Entente Ultimatum and Accepts all Demands, Probably Averting Crisis—Rumor Famine in Germany Worse

LONDON, Eng., Jan. 17.—Eluding the British naval patrol around the British Isles early in December, a fleet German raider, well-armed and provisioned, is believed to be now operating with startling effect among the Allied shipping in the South Atlantic.

Eight British and two French merchant vessels are believed to have been sunk in the last few days in the South Atlantic by this raider. Two other vessels are thought to have been captured.

Hints of the fate of the missing 12 ships, whose failure to reach destination has been watched with anxiety, have come from that part of the seas where the unknown vessel is believed to be operating now.

The British steamers are the Dramatist, the Radnorshire, the Minieh, the Netherby Hall, the Mount Temple, the King George, the Georgie and the Voltaire. The French victims are the Nantes and Asnieres, and two vessels reported captured are the St. Theodore and Yarrowdale.

Greece Yields To Allied Ultimatum

LONDON, England, Jan. 17.—The Allies-Greek crisis appears to be passing. The Allies are making demands and being ready to cease hostilities. It is Greece's turn to yield. The British minister at Athens says that the Constantine government has accepted the Entente ultimatum without reservations.

RUSSO-RUMANIANS TURN ON TEUTONS, RECAPTURE TOWN SOUTHWEST GALATZ

PETROGRAD, Russia, Jan. 17.—The Russians today recaptured Vadeni on the Rumanian front, southwest of Galatz, according to an official statement today.

(Vadeni or Vadeni, is between the Buzual and Sereth river mouths and the German official statement of January 15 said it was captured by the Teutons that day.)

BERLIN, Germany, Jan. 17.—The Russo-Rumanian forces on the Rumanian front today made violent attacks to recapture positions recently taken from them. At Vadeni the Teuton outposts returned to their lines in the face of superior numerical strength. Elsewhere the enemy was repulsed with heavy losses.

On the west front today the Hanover infantry entered French positions on Combrès heights and returned bringing prisoners.

GERMAN FOOD SUPPLY LESSENED IN PAST SIX MONTHS, SAYS OBSERVER

STOCKHOLM, Sweden, Jan. 17.—That the food situation in Germany has grown worse in the past six months is the experience of an Associated Press correspondent who has been visiting Berlin. Potatoes are very scarce. There is no cheese, nor eggs, and the milk supply is shorter than ever.

One cannot buy clothing, according to his experience, nor blankets, without permission of the police.

ITALY TAKES STEPS TO CONSERVE FOOD SUPPLY

ROME, Italy, Jan. 17.—The government today announced the appointment of a special committee to supervise more extensive and rapid distribution of food supplies. The committee is formed in response to complaints from some quarters of the scarcity of provisions.

TWO MORE NORWEGIAN SHIPS SENT TO BOTTOM

LONDON, England, Jan. 17.—The Norwegian steamers Otta and Solvang have been sunk in the war zone, according to Lloyd's Agency.

GERMANS TO FIX TOP PRICES ON METALS

BERLIN, Germany, Jan. 17.—The German government is about to fix maximum prices on all iron and steel goods.

Large Ships Among Those Thought Sunk

Steamers mentioned in the despatch above as sunk or captured are as follows, according to the latest maritime registers here:

Dramatist—5415 tons, built at Glasgow, 1914, owned by Clarendon Steamship Company, Ltd.; home port, Liverpool.

Radnorshire—4310 tons, built at Sunderland 1913, owned by Royal Mail Steam Packet Company; home port, London.

Minieh—2661 tons, built at Glasgow, Scotland, 1886, and owned by the Anglo-American Telegraph Company; home port, London. (This is probably the vessel referred to above as the "Minieh.")

Netherby Hall—4461 tons, built at Newcastle 1905, owned by Eilerman Line, Ltd.; home port, London.

Mount Temple—3793 tons, built at Newcastle 1901, and owned by Canadian Pacific Railway, with home port at Liverpool.

King George—3853 tons, built 1906 at Middlesbrough, owned by the Freshfield Steamship Company, Ltd.; home port, Glasgow.

Voltaire—3518 tons, built at Glasgow 1907, and owned by the Lamport & Holt Company, Ltd.; home port, Liverpool.

Georgie—10,977 tons, built at Belfast 1895, and owned by the White Star Steamship Company, Liverpool.

Yarrowdale—4652 tons, built at Newcastle 1912, and owned by Mackell Steamship Company, Ltd., with home port Glasgow.

TEUTONS AGAIN SCORE IN AIR BATTLES, SAYS BERLIN ANNOUNCEMENT

BERLIN, Germany, Jan. 17.—Official announcement today says that 24 Entente airplanes were shot down on the various battle-fronts during the month of December. Thirty-two machines came into possession of troops of the Central Powers. The latter lost only 17 machines during the month.

Additional Telegram dispatches published on Page 9.